

Proposal for Verified Emissions Reductions for AB 32 Compliance –

Forest Management project activities

The number of reductions from forest management activities has declined considerably since the original GCAT estimate. The current spreadsheet lists quantifiable reductions totally 2.35 MMT CO₂e from riparian buffers and regulatory changes that have already happened, raising additionality questions, at least from this reviewer. There are several other categories for this measure without numbers where this proposal might fit.

PROPOSAL - 1.700656 mmtCO₂e beginning in 2005 and up to and including 2020

Rationale: On February 11, 2008, the California Climate Action Registry verified and registered emission reductions from two forest management projects in California – hereafter Garcia and Van Eck. The reductions are verified as conforming to the CCAR forest management project protocol that was adopted by the Air Resources Board on October 25, 2007 for recognition as a voluntary, early action measure. According to information publicly available on the CCAR web site, the Garcia has verified emission reductions of 77,040 mmtCO₂e annually beginning in 2005 and Van Eck has verified emission reductions of 29,251 mmtCO₂e annually beginning in 2005. Acknowledging that the number could change between now and 2020, it is clear that CCAR will update its reporting annually and ARB will have reliable information to make adjustments, it is both prudent and reasonable now to assume an equivalent level of verified emissions reductions annually. Thus, including 2020, there will have been 16 years of verified emission reductions totaling 106,291 mmtCO₂e annually from these two projects, yielding **1.700656 mmtCO₂e for AB 32 compliance.**

This is arguably the most reliable estimate of emission reductions from the forest sector (if not all sectors at this point), the model of how project level reductions can and should be included into the AB 32 compliance process, and the epitome of recognizing early action.